ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF CANTON:

FOR THE YEAR ENDING

APRIL 1, 1862.

BOSTON: WILLIAM BENSE, PRINTER,—8 CONGRESS SQUARE. 1862.



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	to tanomA or rot bisq	##280.00 280.00 474.60 170.00 114.00 118.00 280.00 280.00 281.00 281.00	\$2,971.60
Wages per week, in- cluding board.	Winter	\$10.00 10.00 14.00 6.00 5.00 4.00 4.00 10.00 9.70 9.70	\$91.70
Wages per	Summer.	\$ 6.00 13.25 6.00 5.00 4.00 6.00 6.00 6.00 6.00 6.00 6.00 6	\$74.95
hers.	No. of Teac	1120 1110	12
еекв.	Total of W	8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	4353
Length of school, in Weeks.	Winter.	16 10 10 10 10 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	1515
	Summer.	200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200 200	275
, 58 and 15,	Ио. бетчее Мау 1	63 330 330 55 70	6 687
der	Winter.	100000000000	_
Under 5.	Summer.	r04000004H0H	15
0ver 15.	Winter.	880000000000	39
0ve 15.	Summer.	000000000000	27
Average Attendance.	Winter.	834488 84488 84488 84488 84488 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 80 8	479
	Summer.	45 28 44 48 48 48 62 62 62 63 64 64 83 33	527
Whole No.	Winter.	62 47 47 47 57 69 69 69 69 69 69 69 69 69 69 69 69 69	638
	Summer.	61 64 64 64 67 67 77 112 29 56 82 82 83 83	732
	DISTRICTS.	7007	7
		GEORGE F. SUMNER CHARLES DAVENPORT	TOTAL

-

REPORT.

Your Committee have the gratification of saying that the Schools during the past year have been generally prosperous. Nothwithstanding the depression in business, and the anxiety which has disturbed the public mind, the interest of the people has seemed greater than ever in the welfare of their Schools, and they have been assiduous in promoting the regular attendance of their children; have made frequent visits to the School rooms, and have been present on days of public examination.

The whole amount of money, raised by the town, for the support of the public Schools, was - - \$3200.00 Add Interest of State School Fund, - 125.19

Total, \$3325.19

Which was appropriated as follows, viz:

				A	,	
				Teaching.	Fuel and Care of School Room.	Total.
То	Dist.	No.	1,	\$280.00	\$28.00	\$308.00
44	"	66	2,	280.00	20.00	300.00
66	44	"	3,	1122.60	150.57	1273.17
66	"	66	4,	216.00	25.60	241.60
٤.	"	66	5,	280.00	26.50	306.50
66	"	66	6,	388.00	37.93	425.00
"	66	66	7,	405.00	43.83	448.83
7	Fotal,			\$2971.60	\$332.43	\$3303.10

The whole number of persons in the town between the ages of five and fifteen on the first day of May 1861, as certified to us by the Assessors, was 687, being an increase of 45 over last year.

The whole number of pupils of all ages who have attended the Schools during the year, has been, in summer 732, being an increase of 107 over last year;—and in winter 638, being an increase of 85 over last year.

The aggregate average attendance has been, in summer 527, being an increase of 20 over last year;—and in winter, 479, being an increase of 57 over last year.

The average attendance is very much less than it should be. But we are of the opinion that the irregular attendance has been generally caused by sickness, over which, of course, we have no control.

Last year the measles was the epidemic which disturbed the attendance of the pupils; this year the mumps have been prevalent in all the Schools.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Summer Term. Teacher, Miss Mary E. Tucker. Winter Term. Teacher, Mr. A. Sumner Dean. Both the teachers of this School were energetic, practiced, and had been successful heretofore in this town. Good progress was made during the summer. The younger pupils were faithfully attended to, and their advancement in orthography was great. Reading was well taught. In grammar and in mental arithmetic the instruction was thorough and the advancement noticeable. At the closing examination several compositions were read which showed that the children had been taught to arrange their ideas skilfully. The teacher's skill in vocal music enabled her to impart to this exercise more than usual interest.

The success of Mr. Dean in the Winter School was preeminent. The deportment of the pupils was meritorious without exception. Manifest improvement was made in all the studies and great proficiency in written arithmetic. Several well written compositions were read at the closing examination.

DISTRICT No. 2.

Teacher, Mr. William Haskell. As we suggested in our last annual Report, Mr. Haskell continued his connection with

this school, and, as we anticipated, with the most beneficial results. During the Winter term, a large number of older pupils, particularly attracted our attention, and compelled our admiration, by their excellent reading, spelling and thorough acquaintance with written arithmetic. The teacher's success with the very youngest pupils, his tender regard and care for them, have endeared him to the parents, as well as secured the love of the children. In fact, all the children alike, the youngest as well as the oldest, were interested, and diligent in their studies, obedient and respectful, and consequently there was no check to advancement. The closing examination was enlivened by declamations and by vocal music.

DISTRICT No. 3.

GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT.

Teacher, Mr. Henry H. Kimball. This school which had suffered somewhat from changing teachers, before the time of making our last annual Report, was increased at the commencement of the year by thirty one pupils, from the Intermediate Department; making the whole number sixty four, and increasing the labors of the teacher greatly. By direction of the Prudential Committee, the schools began on the 15th of April, being several weeks earlier than usual.

Mr. Kimball was a graduate of Dartmouth College, a most thorough and accomplished scholar, and had previously taught with success in Dedham. During the Summer, a majority of the pupils made commendable progress in their studies. At the public examination in November, there were fifty pupils present, who were carefully examined in the presence of a large number of spectators, in reading, geography, arithmetic and English grammar, and their recitations—were remarkably accurate and prompt.

There was also a class of pupils in algebra. Eleven, out of a large number of compositions, were read, which reflected great credit upon both pupils and teacher. Specimens of penmanship and drawing, of rare excellence, showed that there had been care and industry in that department.

During the Winter term which closed February 4th, the average attendance was not so large. At the closing examination forty four pupils were present, all of whom manifested that they had made decided advancement in all the branches taught. In arithmetic, and in the art of composition, they had made even greater progress than in the Summer. The examination was attended by a large number of spectators. Some of the young ladies enlivened the exercises by good singing.

We have thus spoken of this school as it appeared to us on the days of public examination, and at the times when we visited it without previous notice to the teacher. The discipline appeared to be salutary, and the moral influence of the teacher in the right direction.

Nevertheless, we were indirectly informed that, in several instances severe corporal punishment had been inflicted; and we could not be unobservant of the fact that several pupils had withdrawn themselves from the school before the close of the Winter term. This spirit of insubordination was confined to a very few pupils and, so far as we could ascertain, to the same few whose restlessness under the discipline of Mr. Pillsbury, was noticed in our last annual Report.

Our opinion is, that all that hindered the complete success of this school, was, the neglect of some of the parents to supplement the efforts of the teacher.

INTERMEDIATE DEPARTMENT.

Teacher. Miss Helen M. Beaumont. Great interest has been manifested in this school during the entire year, by teacher, pupils and parents. Forty five pupils were present at the examination, and double that number of spectators. The complete discipline of the school and their attachment to their teacher could not but be apparent. Thorough improvement had been made in all the branches taught. In spelling, at the closing examination, out of two hundred and thirty four words, only nine were missed.—The reading of all of the pupils was deserving of special commendation. Singing and drawing were daily exercises in this school.

FIRST PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

Teacher. MISS EVELEEN L. KNAGGS. The teacher of this school has manifested the same untiring zeal and eagerness of effort through another school year, which have heretofore characterized her. Fifty five pupils were present at the closing examination.

In all the branches taught in the school, the instruction was thorough. The pupils were studious and affectionately attached to their teacher.

SECOND PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

Teacher. Miss Charlotte E. Bense. The professional ardor and enthusiasm of this teacher have constantly increased during this, her third year in teaching this school, and the young and tender minds as they successively come within the sphere of her benignant influence, are moulded and trained with consummate skill. Forty nine pupils were present at the closing examination. In this, as in Miss Knaggs' department, singing has been a daily exercise.

THIRD PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

Teachers. MISS EMMA F. PARISH.

- " ADA R. HUNTLEY.
- " HELEN J. PORTER.

During MISS PARISH'S term the whole number of pupils in this school was 112, The average attendance was 64. Some promotions were made early in the season which reduced the number.

The children were all very young the average age being a fraction over five years. All the teachers were accomplished energetic and faithful. Fifty six pupils were present at the examination at the close of the Summer term, and forty five at the close of the Winter term.

A class of twenty seven pupils who began with the alphabet were able to read well without spelling the words. The care of the teachers of the deportment of these young children, their success in unfolding the mental faculties according to the measure of infancy, deserve our especial mention. Throughout the year the school room was visited every day by interested and grateful parents whose concurrence with the measures of the teachers was an incitement and a reward.

In concluding our remarks upon the schools in this District, which, at the present time, numbers three hundred and thirty children, between the ages of five and fifteen, being almost half of the whole number of persons in town between those ages, we think we are justified in saying that, so far as the grading of the several schools is concerned, they are at present in a better condition than they have ever heretofore been, and that, in the four schools last mentioned a greater degree of success has never before been attained.

DISTRICT No. 4.

Teacher. MISS HARRIET M. TUCKER. This school has enjoyed the instruction of MISS TUCKER during the whole of the year, and has made quiet, steady, and healthy progress. The whole number of pupils was twenty eight, of different ages and of different degrees of attainment. The behavior of these pupils has been uninterruptedly good. In reading, spelling and arithmetic great improvement was made. At the closing examination twenty four pupils were present and twenty five spectators. Specimens of penmanship were exhibited which elicited deserved encomium. And the exercises were enlivened by declamation from several pupils of tender years, and by the reading of original compositions.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Summer Term. Teacher, MISS HELEN J. PORTER. Winter Term. Teacher, MR. WILLARD F. ESTEY. MISS PORTER, whose superior ability and aptitude for teaching we had witnessed in the primary school in District No. 3, was equally successful here. Her attention to all the studies was minute and faithful. The classes in reading, spelling and arithmetic which

had made great advance during the previous winter, continued to go on and to improve. Her method of teaching geography was an improvement. Thirty four pupils were present at the closing examination of the Summer term. The exercises were varied by declamations and dialogues.

During the Winter, under the tuition of Mr. Ester, most rapid advance was made in all the studies. This gentleman has proved himself to be a teacher of more than ordinary ability. His success in teaching reading and spelling, and his patience with young children excited our admiration. His system of instruction is practical, and awakens the minds of the pupils to active thought and systematic habits of study. It will be a fortunate thing for the district if his services can be retained in this bright attractive school.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Teacher, Mr. Franklin Jacobs. Assistant, Miss Jane E. Dyer.

This large school has been favored with a continuance of the labors of the same efficient and acceptable teacher, who taught forty weeks, paying the assistant from his own salary. Good order, industry and increasing zeal have charactized the school and its advancement in all the studies has been steady and constant. We spoke of the spelling here in our last Report, and it was particularly excellent at the last closing examination. In written arithmetic great progress was made, several of the older pupils having made themselves thoroughly conversant with the science from title page to index of Greenleaf's National Arithmetic,—Reading, grammar, geography and history were carefully taught, and the writing books deserve especial commendation. Sixty one pupils were present at the closing examination. A large number of well written compositions were read, and there were declamations, and singing.

During the present vacation a new school room will be added to the house to meet the wants of the district. It is to be hoped that Mr. Jacobs may continue his labors here.

DISTRICT No. 7.

GRAMMAR DEPARTMENT.

Summer Term. Teacher, MISS A. E. W. DUNBAR. Winter Term. MR. WILLIAM E. ENDICOTT. This school which has enjoyed a deservedly high reputation for punctuality, industry proficiency and progress, and for its attention to those branches of study usually esteemed ornamental, did not, during the summer term manifest its usual enthusiasm. To a school there can be no such thing as standing still. It must be either going forward or backward.

During the Winter term under the tuition of Mr. Endicott, the school sprung back to its former enthusiastic devotion to the pursuits of the school room, and went brilliantly up to the highest standard required. We have never known so great improvement to be made in the same space of time, as was made by the classes in this school in reading and in arithmetic. Teaching, with Mr. Endicott, is a "high impulse" and we predict for him the highest honors of the profession.

Three pupils from Sharon have attended the schools in this district, two during the Summer, and three during the Winter term, for whose tuition the Committee have received the sum of \$11.60 which has been paid into the Treasury of this town.

PRIMARY DEPARTMENT.

Teacher, Miss Louise M. Clark. Three consecutive years of service in this school have confirmed the good opinion we have entertained of this teacher's judicious management and of her value. We consider her school a model primary school. The parents have lost none of their interest in her success and in every way aid her in the accomplishement of her duties. In reading, spelling, in mental arithmetic, and in geography 'there were no poor scholars, and their specimens of drawing and beautiful singing were peculiarly gratifying.

In concluding our Report we desire to add that the success which has attended the efforts of the teachers has been, in no

small degree, the result of the united and symphathetic cooperation of parents and others interested in public education. From records kept by teachers we learn that visits to the school room have increased in an unexampled ratio. And the presence of parents and friends at examinations of schools in which they were not particularly interested, has been a pleasing feature.

There have been fewer changes of teachers than ever before, during at least, the last ten years. And the Prudential Committees have left no means untried in their power to promote the comfort and convenience of the children. The school houses are all pleasant, in good condition, and supplied with all necessary apparatus. In one of the school rooms in District No. 3, attractive engravings and portraits adorn the walls. We should like to see the example imitated. Two of them have been furnished with Seraphines. Music has lent its delightful and refining influence, in a greater or less degree, according to the proficiency and taste of the teachers. But in all the schools it has had a place and has been entered into with hearty delight by the children.

The School room in District No. 1, is hardly large enough for the increasing population, and, at the suggestion of the Committee, several pupils who live nearer to, and seemed more properly to belong to District No. 2, were allowed to attend school there.

No changes have been made in text books. A new edition of Greenleaf's National Arithmetic has been introduced which, among other new material contains methods of averaging accounts, and of alligating, subjects of great importance, and which during the past winter have been carefully enforced.

Physiology has been taught in several of the schools. There have been clases in Algebra and Geometry, and Book Keeping, and the Bible has been daily read by the pupils or teacher in all the schools.

FOR THE COMMITTEE,

SAMUEL B. NOYES, Superintendent.

School Committee.

1362-3.

For One Year.

(FRANKLIN REED, WILLIAM BLACKMAN, JOSEPH W. WATTLES.

For Two Years.

EZEKIEL CAPEN, CHAIRMAN.
J. MASON EVERETT,
ISAAC HORTON.

For Three Years. SAMUEL B. NOYES, SEC'Y AND SUP'T. GEORGE F. SUMNER, JESSE FENNO.

List of Text Books

ORDERED BY THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE TO BE USED IN THE SCHOOLS OF CANTON.

READERS.—New Testament, Russell's American School Reader, Swan's Readers, and Russell's Primer.

Spellers.—Swan's Spellers, and Worcester's Dictionary.

English Grammar.—Weld's, Tower's First Lessons, and Weld's Parsing Book.

ARITHMETIC.—Emerson's First Part, Colburn's Mental, and Greenleaf's Introduction, and National.

GEOGRAPHY .- Cornell's Series, and Warren's Physical Geography.

PENMANSHIP .- Payson, Dunton & Scribner's.

HISTORY.—Parley's, Goodrich's United States, and Worcester's General History.

MATHEMATICS.—Sherwin's Algebra and Davies' Geometry.

PHYSIOLOGY.—Cutter's Physiology and Hygiene.

BOOK-KEEPING-Hanaford and Payson's.

Books can be had at E. Capen's.









